



Shelby
County

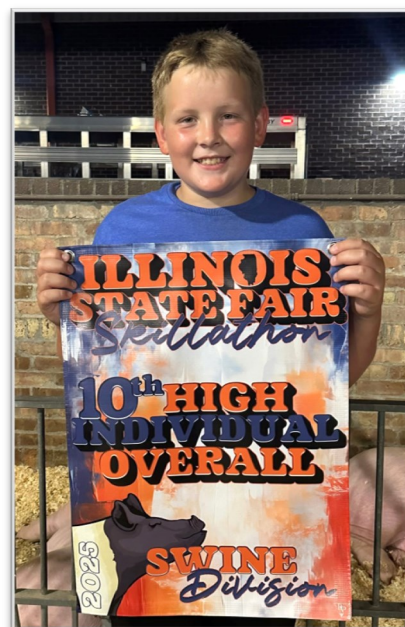
4-H

September News



Hall of Fame
Lisa Mott

Will Banfield
Civic Engagement 1



State Fair Skillathon
Barrett Thatcher



Cooper & Brooks Wooten—Poultry Show



Katherine Kirkbride
Geology

Calendar of events

September

- 1.... Office closed for holiday
- 1.... 4-H year begins
- 8.... Year-end records due including Secretary and Treasurer books
- 10.... Federation meeting, 7 p.m. 4-H Center
- 20.... Cloverbud Achievement Night
- 22.... Livestock Judging Team (1st meeting), 7 p.m., 4-H Center
- 27.... Electronic Recycling Event, 9 a.m.– 12 p.m., Exhibit Hall

October

- 1.... Federation meeting, 7 p.m. Shelby County Extension Office
- 1.... 4-H Club Award submitted to State 4-H Office
- 9.... Scarecrows in place for Scarecrow Decorating Contest
- 11.... Scarecrow Daze Parade, 10 a.m. Forest Park
- 18.... Fall Round-Up, 9-11 a.m., 4-H Center

November

- 5.... Federation meeting, 7 p.m. 4-H Center
- 14.... Deadline to sign up for the Bank Steer Program
- 26-28.... Office closed for the holidays

December

- 3.... Federation meeting, 6:30 p.m., 4-H Center
- 6.... Winter Craft Day, 9-12:30, 4-H Center
- 6.... Cloverbud Winter Craft Day, 1:15-2:45, 4-H Center
- 12.... Early Enrollment Incentive - enrollments must be entered and the program fee paid by this date
- 23-31.... Office closed for the holidays

January

- 1-2.... Office closed for the holidays
- 17.... Officer Training 9 a.m. –12 p.m., Sarah Bush Lincoln Education Center Mattoon
- 19.... Office closed for the holiday

Shelby County 4-H & Junior Fair

- July 11.... Fair Clean-up
- July 18 ... 4-H Foods, Photography, Visual Arts
- July 19 thru July 22 . . . Fair

Shelby County 4-H Federation

Wednesday, September 10

Federation is the youth leadership team in the county. They plan county workshops, coordinate 4-H week events, and are involved with community service projects.

Federation is open to youth in 8th grade and up. Junior federation members are those youth who are in 6th and 7th grades. Federation will be meeting on Wednesday, September 10 at 7 p.m. at the 4-H Center.

If interested in attending, please **RSVP by September 8** so we have an idea on how many to expect.

If you can't make the first meeting but are interested, we hope you will join us at one of our upcoming fall meetings.

Meeting dates for the fall - 4-H Center

- October 1, 7 p.m.
- November 5, 7 p.m.
- December 3, 6:30 p.m.

Any questions can be directed to Yolanda at nation2@illinois.edu or by calling 217-774-9546.

Shelby County 4-H Cloverbud Achievement Night

Saturday, September 20

Shelby County 4-H is excited to welcome our Cloverbuds to the annual Shelby County 4-H Cloverbud Achievement Night program. The program will take place on Saturday, September 20 at 7 p.m. at the 4-H Center. Invites will be sent to families in the next few weeks.

We will be recognizing Cloverbuds for their achievements through the 4-H year. Last year members will also be honored. Please RSVP to Yolanda by September 18 so we can plan for refreshments.

Checklist for Year-End Records

Due September 8, 2025

Records include:

- Outstanding 1st year form (for first year members only)
- Outstanding 2nd year form (for second year members only)
- My 4-H Records - must be completed in its entirety by the 4-H member and signed by the club member, 4-H parent, 4-H Club leader
- Livestock records - all species may be included on one record but expenses should be noted by species
- Shelby County 4-H Experience (optional - this award is for an Experience medal)

All record forms are to be completed by the 4-H member, not your parent, grandparent, etc.

For assistance with year-end records, you may call the Extension office and schedule an appointment for help.

Link to the website: <https://extension.illinois.edu/ccdms/4-h-shelby-county>
Look under the Shelby County Awards heading.

Scarecrow Daze Parade

Saturday, October 11

Federation members are planning on participating in the Scarecrow Daze Parade on October 11 in Shelbyville. Members will be passing out candy along with 4-H informational pamphlets.

Federation would love to have Shelby County 4-H members & Cloverbuds in the parade. If you would like to participate, email Yolanda by **October 9** so we have an idea on how many kids will be participating. If you forget to call but can make it, please come join us!

Parents need to drop off their 4-H members at the Lions Club parking lot in front of Forest Park. Kids will need to walk to the float.

If you participate, please wear a 4-H t-shirt to show your 4-H pride. We hope to see lots of members come and support Shelby County 4-H and have fun at the parade!

4-H Enrollment System - ZSuites

Illinois 4-H has set October 1 as the target date to open ZSuites for enrollment for the 2025-2026 4-H year. Please do not enroll until you have received an email stating ZSuites is open!

Watch for updates in the upcoming month. Club leaders will have instructions on ZSuites enrollment. **Members must be enrolled before participating in any county event.**

Families will be responsible for paying \$10 of the \$20 program fee for 2025-2026 with Shelby Extension Foundation paying the other \$10. Families will be able to pay program fees online via a credit card or with cash or check to their club leader.

Scarecrow Decorating Contest

Thursday, October 9

It's time to start decorating for Fall. Each club may decorate and submit one scarecrow. Clubs can designate a committee or complete as a club project. Scarecrows must be in place at the Shelby County Extension Office by Thursday, October 9.

Shelby County 4-H Federation is sponsoring a Facebook Voting Contest. Watch the Shelby County IL 4-H Facebook Page for pictures and details of the contest. The winning club will receive a cash prize.

This activity will count as a county activity for those who participate.

Jr. Fair Premium Checks

Jr Fair premium and auction checks are ready for families to pick up. Clubs who picked up their members checks are Coldspring Copperheads, Ful-O-Pep, Moweaqua Rustlers, Rural Feeders, Oconee Eager Beavers. Please reach out to your club leader if you haven't received your check.

Shelby County Livestock Judging Team

Monday, September 22

Shelby County 4-H is excited to offer a Livestock Judging Team for the upcoming 4-H year. Hallie Horsman, will be the club leader. 4-H members ages 8-18 will develop critical thinking and communication skills. Youth will gain confidence while learning more about the livestock industry.

You don't have to have livestock to join! As a member of the Livestock Judging Team, you will learn how to evaluate cattle, sheep, pigs, and goats while giving oral reasons to improve your public speaking. Youth will compete at local and state contests and build friendships and confidence along the way.

Please RSVP to Hallie via email at 2018hhorsman@gmail.com or via text to 217-246-9297 by September 15. The first meeting will be held on Monday, September 22 at 7 p.m. at the 4-H center to answer questions and discuss the goals for the year.

Shelby County 4-H Fall Round-Up

Saturday, October 18

Shelby County 4-H is offering the 4-H Fall Round-Up workshop on Saturday, October 18 from 9-11 a.m. at the 4-H Center. This workshop is open to members who are at least eight years of age and are new or a second year member. Parents may attend.

We will be doing hands on activities teaching 4-H members about a variety of projects. We will answer questions about enrollments, 4-H projects and fair requirements.

There is no charge to attend this workshop. RSVP by October 10 via email to nation2@illinois.edu or by calling 217-774-9546. Youth must be enrolled in ZSuites and paid their program fee in order to participate.

Join us for a fun morning of "learning by doing!"

Thank you's

This is a final reminder to those who received a trophy, banner or other award at the fair. Please send your sponsor a thank you card! Addresses can be found on the bottom of the trophy, and back of the banner. Outstanding Exhibitor chairs were sponsored by Shelby County 4-H and cards can be sent to the Extension office Attn: Yolanda.

We want to thank and acknowledge our sponsors for their continued support to the Shelby County 4-H program. Not sure who sponsored your award? Contact Yolanda for your donor's information.

Cloverbud Winter Craft Day

Saturday, December 6

Cloverbud Winter Craft Day will be held on Saturday, December 6 from 1:15-2:45 p.m. at the 4-H Center. The cost is \$10 and \$12 for non 4-H members.

Families need to RSVP and pay the workshop fee by November 21. Space is limited to 25 Cloverbuds. After this, kits can be purchased to make at home.

Families can RSVP by sending an email to Yolanda at nation2@illinois.edu or by calling 217-774-9546.

Winter Craft Day

Saturday, December 6

Shelby County 4-H Winter Craft day will be held on Saturday, December 6 at the 4-H Center. 4-H'ers will make winter craft projects and the famous gingerbread houses.

There will be two sessions:
Session 1 - 9-10:30 a.m.
Session 2 - 10:45 a.m. -12:15 p.m. The cost is \$10 and \$12 for non-4-H members. 4-H'ers need to RSVP and pay the workshop fee by November 21. RSVP via email at nation2@illinois.edu or by calling 217-774-9546 with the preferred session. Space is limited!

Helpers are always needed and appreciated for Winter Craft Day! It's a fun morning hanging out with some very cool kids.

Electronics Recycling September 27 - help is needed!

The City of Shelbyville is hosting an Electronic Recycling Day on Saturday, September 27 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Exhibit Hall at the Shelby County 4-H & Junior Fairgrounds. Shelby County 4-H has been asked to provide help directing traffic and assisting with unloading smaller items during the event. We will have two shifts: 8:30-10:15 a.m., 10:15 -12 p.m.

This is an excellent way to participate in a county community service project as well as meeting your county activity in order to participate at the 2026 Shelby County 4-H Fair. 4-H'ers need to be at least 10 years of age to assist with this event.

When signing up, please let Yolanda know what shift you would like to work. Parents are welcome to help as well. We hope you will consider helping your community during this clean-up event!

Please let Yolanda know if you could help by sending an email to nation2@illinois.edu or by calling the Extension office at 217-774-9546.

If attending, please wear a 4-H t-shirt so we can promote 4-H.

Bank Steer Program

Deadline Friday, November 14

Are you interested in raising, showing and selling a steer as a 4-H project? The Shelby County State Bank is offering interest-free loans to Shelby County 4-H members to assist them in purchasing a steer to exhibit at the fair.

In order to be eligible to participate in this program, the 4-H member must have been enrolled in 4-H at least one previous year. Members must complete enrollment in ZSuites and pay the \$10 program fee by November 14.

Note - new families will have an on-farm visit from the Bank Steer Committee prior to steer weigh-in, all participants will have an on-farm visit in the Spring by the Bank Steer Committee. Shelby County State Bank reserves the right to deny any individual participation in the Bank Steer Program.

The deadline to sign up for a bank steer is November 14. Pick-up for steers will be on February 14 at the county steer weigh-in.

Scrap O'Maniacs

The Scrap O'Maniacs SPIN Club will not meet this year. Club leaders are taking the year off.

2025-2026 New Projects

Hay, Llamas/alpacas, and Building Bricks are new 4-H projects area this year. More details will be sent out later.

Junior Fair Crop Projects

As harvest is quickly approaching don't forget to save the following to exhibit at the 2026 Shelby County Junior Fair:

- 6 ears of Field Corn (Each should be equal size, free from insects or disease damage.)
- Gallon of soybeans (Displayed in a clear jar and free of trash, cracked beans, or splits.)

4-H Club State Award

Wednesday, October 1

Illinois 4-H sponsors 4-H Club Awards in the following areas: Community Service, Leadership and Project Learning. The application has three sections that should be completed: cover page, club information, and award category information.

Applications must be submitted online to the State 4-H Office by October 1. Applications receiving at least 90 points, will receive a \$75 cash prize.

We have clubs doing great work and they are encouraged to apply. Contact Yolanda for the link to the application.

Shelby County 4-H Club Information for 2025-2026

Shelby County 4-H would like to thank the following club leaders for their service as they step away being club leaders in the upcoming 4-H year: Ful-O-Pep Cloverbud Leader - Jeri Danneberger, and Shelby Sprouts Cloverbud Leader - Sherri Jesgarz. We welcome a new Cloverbud Club this year. Kelli Black will be leading the Coldspring Copperheads Cloverbud Club. They will partner with 4-H Club Coldspring Copperheads.

Here is a complete listing of 4-H clubs throughout the county. Cloverbuds who are aging out of Cloverbuds and ready to join 4-H, can check out the club listings and the area of the county they are located. Reach out to Yolanda for club leaders contact information.

Shelby County 4-H Clubs (youth ages 8-18 as of 9/1/25):

- Chautauqua Clovers - Willian Ade, Stephanie Carrell (meet in Tower Hill)
- Coldspring Copperheads - Lacey Garner (located in Cowden area)
- FAR - Jane Storm, Michelle Schultz, Missy Hampton (located in Windsor area)
- Findlay Feeders - Rusty Yantis (located in Findlay area)
- Ful-O-Pep - Wes & Sara Durbin, Christy Pruemer (meet in Clarksburg)
- John Jordan Jaybirds - Linda Glick, Marilyn Biehler (meet in Shelbyville)
- Moweaqua Rustlers - Lisa Mott (meet in Moweaqua)
- Oconee Eager Beavers - Annette Sims, Kellie Kuhn, Andrea Schafer, Ashley Cervi (meet in Oconee)
- Rural Feeders - Abby Corzine, Rachel Meachum (meet in rural Assumption)
- Shelby Showstoppers - Terri Horsman (meet in Shelbyville)
- Shelby Sparklers - Mandy Hoene, Amy Durdel, Nita Romack (meet in Sigel)
- Silver Spurs - John/Yolanda Nation (meet in Shelbyville)
- Strasburg Tailtwisters - Kevin & Jackie Beitz, Caralea Smith (meet in Strasburg area)

Shelby County Cloverbuds (youth ages 5-7 as of 9/1/25):

- FAR Cloverbuds - Michelle Schultz (located in Windsor area)
- Coldspring Copperheads Cloverbuds - Kelli Black (located in Cowden area)
- Moweaqua Rustlers Cloverbuds - Christa Hunter (located in Moweaqua)
- Rural Feeders Cloverbuds - Rachel Meachum (located in rural Assumption)
- Stew Stras Cloverbuds - Leslie Richter (Stew Stras Grade School)
- The Clover Kids - Delaney Nation (meet in Shelbyville)

Save the dates!

- *December 12* - Early Enrollment Incentive deadline (enrolled and program fee paid)
- *January 17* - Multi County Officer Training, 9-12 Mattoon
- *February 14* - Steer Weigh-in at 8 a.m.
- *March 1* - Deadline to enroll in Shelby County 4-H to be eligible to exhibit at the 2026 Shelby County 4-H Fair
- *March 14-21* Shelby County 4-H Week
- *March 30* - Spring Clean-up at the fairgrounds 6 p.m.
- *May 1* - Deadline to add/drop projects in ZSuites
- *June 1* - 4-H & Junior Fair Entry deadline (4-H entries are submitted through Fair Entry)
- *July 11* - Fair Clean-up 8 a.m.
- *July 18* - 4-H Foods, 4-H Photography, and misc. Visual Arts judging
- *July 18* - Horse Show, 4 p.m.
- *July 19* - Move in day at the fair
- *July 19* - Sheep Show
- *July 20-22* Shelby County 4-H & Junior Fair

Upcoming events!

We are working on finalizing dates for the following activities.

- *Nov* - Achievement Night
- *Nov/Dec* - Community Service Workshop
- *March* - 4-H Week activities/locations

"Tell Us Tuesday" Member Spotlight

With the start of the new 4-H year, recruitment efforts are under way to share what Shelby County 4-H has to offer to youth in our county. A new Facebook spotlight series "Tell Us Tuesday's" will be shared on Tuesday's throughout the month of September and October on the Shelby County IL 4-H Facebook page. Yolanda is looking for youth to share a photo with their 4-H project and a quote by Monday, September 15.

The quote can be 2-3 sentences about why you are a 4-H member in Shelby County. The quote can include information about your favorite project, a fun experience you have had, or skills you have learned through 4-H.

"Tell Us Tuesday" is open to all 4-H members including Cloverbuds.

Share your favorite photo and quote as part of "Tell Us Tuesday's" by Monday, September 15.

"Why I am 4-H" Member Video

Our 4-H members are the best story tellers for sharing "Why I am 4-H". Shelby County 4-H would love to share your stories as we kick off the new 4-H year. Yolanda is looking for 4-H'ers who would like to make a 2-3 minute video clip about their 4-H story and "Why I am 4-H".

Videos can be with your animals, or you can bring projects and set up at the Show Arena. Families can make their own video and send to Yolanda or Yolanda is willing to travel to 4-H'ers home to capture them with their animals or 4-H projects. We have great public speakers and would love to showcase our members!

Videos should include your name, club, and number of years in 4-H. Share your story - include a favorite story, things you have learned, etc. in a 2-3 minute video. Please submit videos by September 15. Let Yolanda know if you have any questions.

This is an excellent way to share your experiences as well as let others know about 4-H.

Shelby County 4-H Week Theme

Shelby County 4-H Week is being planned for March 14-21 and we need your help! We have so many creative 4-H families and are looking for unique, one of a kind, and fun 4-H Week Theme ideas.

Please submit your ideas via email to Yolanda by September 30. Don't forget that window displays need to be able to be created from your suggestions!

Tractor Supply Paper Clover Campaign

November 28-December 14

Dates for the Fall Paper Clover Campaign, have been set. During the Paper Clover Campaign, patrons may make contributions to their local 4-H programs at any Illinois TSC store. The campaign runs twice a year.

Our local TSC in Shelbyville would love to have 4-H members in their store promoting Shelby County 4-H during this time. Yolanda is looking for any 4-H members and/or clubs who would like to set up 4-H project displays, hold a bake sale, bring small animals for a mini petting zoo or just set up a table to talk with patrons about 4-H during the Paper Clover Campaign.

It's recommended that clubs set up Friday evenings and anytime on Saturday and Sunday's for the most store traffic. If your club is interested in setting up a booth/table, contact Yolanda with the date and time you would like to set up at TSC and she will let the store know the club schedule. For members who work at least an hour, they can count this as a county activity.

Please support TSC and the 4-H program by participating in the Paper Clover Campaign.



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Shelby County
1125 W. N. Second Street
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
Permit No. 210
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Bulk Third Class



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Shelby County

1125 W North 2nd Street
Shelbyville, IL 62565
Phone: 217-774-9546 FAX: 217-774-9549

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday
8 -12, 1-4:30

Jessie McClusky, County Director
Yolanda Nation, 4-H Program Coordinator

MaryBeth Massey, Program Coordinator,
SNAP-Ed

Penny Hood, Community Worker, SNAP-ED
Diana Litteral, Office Support Assistant

**If you need a reasonable accommodation to
participate, please contact the Shelby County
Extension Office.**

The 4-H Name and Emblem are protected under
federal statute Title 18, U.S. Code 707

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